

## Section 92 Asphalts

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### 4-9201 General

Asphalt, as defined in Section 92, “Asphalts,” of the *Standard Specifications*, is also referred to as paving asphalt. Asphalt is used in asphalt concrete, in asphalt-treated permeable base, and when specified, for tack coat. It is a solid at normal ambient temperatures and must be heated before it is mixed with aggregates or applied as tack coat.

In addition to the specifications for asphalts in Section 92 of the *Standard Specifications*, refer to the requirements for asphalts in other sections of the *Standard Specifications* covering work in which asphalts are used.

For more information, see the *Tack Coat Guidelines* at the following address:

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/construc/>

### 4-9201 General

### 4-9202 Before Work Begins

Before work begins, take the following steps:

- Verify the receipt and proper distribution of Form CEM-3101, “Notice of Materials to Be Used,” which covers asphalt.
- When asphalt is used for tack coat, examine the distributor truck and ensure it meets the specified requirements.
- When required, ensure the contractor properly equips delivery trucks, storage tanks, and spreading equipment with the specified devices for measuring asphalt volumes.

### 4-9202 Before Work Begins

### 4-9203 During the Course of Work

During the work, take the following steps:

- If asphalt is used before sampling and testing, obtain a Certificate of Compliance containing the specified information.
- Check the temperature of the asphalt to ensure it is within the specified range when applied as tack coat at the job site or mixed with aggregate for asphalt concrete or asphalt-treated permeable base at the plant.
- Before paving asphalt is applied as tack coat, ensure the pavement is clean and dry.
- Check the application rate of asphalt used as tack coat to ensure the designated rate. After the first few hundred meters of application, check the initial spread rate. The frequency for checking the spread rate will depend on the accuracy and consistency of the first few checks. Record the spot-check results and the overall daily spread rate in the daily report.

### 4-9203 During the Course of Work

- Ensure that asphalt is not sprayed outside designated areas and that bituminous material does not drip from distribution equipment.
- Sample asphalt in accordance with the table in Section 6-1, “Sample Types and Frequencies,” of the *Construction Manual* (manual) and with the manual’s instructions in Section 6-202E, “Materials Accepted on the Basis of a Certificate of Compliance.”

**4-9204 Measurement and Payment**

Section 92, “Asphalts,” of the *Standard Specifications*, does not contain provisions for payment. Payment clauses for asphalts are found in the various sections covering work in which asphalts are used.

It is a good practice, before the asphalt is discharged, to measure the volume in the distributor truck and to make this volumetric measurement again whenever a partial load leaves the work. These actions result in a good check against scale weights, and the second measurement may be used if the contractor fails to submit a weight ticket for the unused asphalt.

When making volumetric measurements, measure the temperature, and apply the proper factors for converting volume to mass.